

Message Text

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ORIGIN ACDA-19

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TRSE-00 SAJ-01 DODE-00 H-03 NSC-07 SS-20 OIC-04 OMB-01

AEC-11 SAM-01 /161 R

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EUR/NE: JPOWERS

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R 212224Z MAR 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USMISSION IAEA VIENNA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 057090

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM

SUBJECT: NPT PREPCOM: QUESTION OF OBSERVERS

REF: HELSINKI 554(NOTAL)

1. WE ANTICIPATE THAT QUESTION OF ADMITTING OTHER NPT PARTIES TO OBSERVE PREPCOM SESSIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED AT FIRST SESSION OPENING APRIL 1 IN GENEVA. (THIS SESSION OF PREPCOM IS PRESUMABLY MEETING REFERRED TO IN PARA 3 REFTEL. IT IS NOT LIMITED TO US, UK AND USSR, HOWEVER, BUT INVOLVES ALL NPT PARTIES REPRESENTED AT CCD OR IAEA BOARD OF GOVERNORS, TWENTY-SIX COUNTRIES IN ALL.) SESSION WILL PROBABLY BE BRIEF AND ANY DECISION TO ADMIT PARTIES AS OBSERVERS PROBABLY COULD NOT IN ANY CASE BE EFFECTIVE
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BEFORE SECOND SESSION.

2. AS WE HAVE INFORMED OTHER MEMBERS OF PREPCOM, WE WOULD EXPECT PREPCOM TO HONOR COMMITMENT MADE IN FIRST COMMITTEE DEBATE ON NPT RESOLUTION, TO EFFECT THAT ADEQUATE ARRANGEMENTS WOULD BE WORKED OUT TO PERMIT ALL NPT PARTIES TO PRESENT VIEWS IN PREPCOM WHEN THEY HAVE PARTICULAR INTEREST IN MATTER UNDER DISCUSSION. WE THINK SUCH ARRANGEMENTS MIGHT PERMIT PARTIES TO SUBMIT REQUESTS IN ADVANCE TO PRESENT VIEWS ON SUBJECTS UNDER DISCUSSION THAT THEY REGARD OF PARTICULAR IMPORTANCE TO THEM. WE WOULD NOT, HOWEVER, FAVOR ARRANGEMENT WHICH RESULTED IN NON-MEMBERS OF PREPCOM ATTENDING MEETINGS ON ROUTINE BASIS AS OBSERVERS. IN OUR VIEW THIS WOULD NOT BE CONSISTENT WITH DECISION TAKEN BY NPT PARTIES TO ESTABLISH A RELATIVELY SMALL REPRESENTATIVE COMMITTEE TO MAKE CONFERENCE PREPARATIONS, BUT WOULD BE TANTAMOUNT TO ESTABLISHING COMMITTEE OF WHOLE COMPOSED OF ALL NPT PARTIES WISHING TO PARTICIPATE. (LATTER IDEA WAS DISCUSSED AT UNGA AND REJECTED AS UNWIELDY AND NOT CONDUCTIVE TO EFFECTIVE PREPARATION OF CONFERENCE.)

3. YOU SHOULD DRAW ON POINTS PRECEDING PARA TO EXPLAIN TO GUSTAFSSON THAT, WHILE WE WOULD NOT FAVOR ADMITTING NPT PARTIES AS OBSERVERS ON ROUTINE BASIS, WE WOULD EXPECT PREPCOM TO PROVIDE ADEQUATE ARRANGEMENTS FOR NPT PARTIES, INCLUDING OF COURSE FINLAND, TO EXPRESS VIEWS. AS THIS IMPLIES, WE WOULD ALSO EXPECT PREPCOM TO PROVIDE ADEQUATE DOCUMENTATION TO PARTIES SO THEY CAN FOLLOW WORK OF PREPCOM AND REQUEST OPPORTUNITY TO PRESENT VIEWS AT APPROPRIATE TIMES. YOU SHOULD OF COURSE EMPHASIZE THAT THESE ARE MATTERS TO BE SETTLED BY PREPCOM AND WE CANNOT NOW PREDICT ITS DECISION.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NPT, ARMS CONTROL MEETINGS, MEMBER ADMISSIONS, MEETING OBSERVERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 MAR 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE057090
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: ACDA/IR: WGIVAN
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740061-0532
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740325/aaaaaxcq.tel
Line Count: 94
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN ACDA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: HELSINKI 554(NOTAL)
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 25 MAR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <25 MAR 2002 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <06 MAY 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NPT PREPCOM: QUESTION OF OBSERVERS
TAGS: PARM
To: HELSINKI
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005